

U.S. Application No. 10/646,318, filed August 22, 2003

Amendment dated October 24, 2006

Accompanying Petition for Revival of Abandoned Patent Application dated October 24, 2006

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2. This sheet, which includes Fig. 2, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 2. In Fig. 2, number 167 has been replaced by number 67, number 168 has been replaced by number 68, number 126 has been replaced by number 26 and number 66 has been deleted. The lead line for the number 65 has been corrected.

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. In Fig. 3, the number 74 has been replaced by number 216.

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 8. This sheet, which includes Fig. 8, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 8. In Fig. 8, the lead line for the number 65 has been corrected.

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 9. This sheet, which includes Fig. 9, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 9. In Fig. 9, the number 216 has been replaced by number 215, and the number 74 has been replaced by 216.

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 10. This sheet, which includes Fig. 10, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 10. In Fig. 10, the number 216 has been replaced by number 215.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (5 sheets, each labeled "Replacement Sheet")

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REMARKS

This Amendment accompanies a Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally ("the Petition") also filed on October 24, 2006. The Amendment is a response to the Office Action mailed August 15, 2005 ("the Office Action"). The Petition is a response to the Notice of Abandonment dated August 24, 2006.

Priority

With respect to Priority, Applicants respectfully draw the attention of the Examiner to pages 2 and 3 of the Preliminary Amendment dated August 22, 2003. Among other things, the cross-reference indicates that U.S. Application No. 07/777,393, now U.S. Patent 5,410,141, is a national phase application of PCT International Application No. PCT/US/90/03282, filed June 7, 1990. There are other statements in the Preliminary Amendment that the Examiner should consider in determining priority. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner restate the Examiner's understanding of the priority of the present application.

In view of *at least* the filing date of said PCT International Application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application antedates U.S. Patent No. 5,166,693 ("Nishikawa") that is alleged to be prior art in the Office Action. Since Nishikawa is not prior art in view of *at least* the filing date of said PCT International Application, it is respectfully requested that the rejections based, at least in part, on Nishikawa be withdrawn.

Amended Claims

Claims 56-72 were pending in the present application before the present application was unintentionally abandoned.

Applicants have amended claims 56, 60, 64, 65 and 69. It is believed that these claims are in condition for allowance.

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Amended Drawings

The Drawings have been amended as set forth previously in the Preliminary Amendment dated August 22, 2003. Applicants have attached corrected drawings in the form of Replacement Sheets of the Drawings. Each Replacement Sheet of Drawings is labeled "Replacement Sheet".

Conclusion

In view of at least the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims 56-72 are in condition for allowance. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or fee deficiencies or to credit any overpayments to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Date: October 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



Michael T. Cruz

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Attachment: Replacement Sheets of Drawings (5 Sheets, each labeled "Replacement Sheet")